

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Henrie II on March 23, 2010.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

a. The abstract is replaced with

--Described is a process for washing, cleaning or aftertreatment of laundry comprising treating the laundry with compounds of formula (II):



wherein R'', independently of each other, represent a hydrogen atom or a sulfur-containing group selected from the group consisting of OC-CH₂-S-SO₃M, SO₃M, and wherein at least one R'' has to be one of the sulfur-containing groups, AO, independently of each other, represent C₂H₄O-, C₃H₆O- or C₄H₈O-, the indices x, y and z, independently of one another,

are 0 or their sum have a value of from 1 to 500, M is a cation having at least one charge, and wherein if x, y or z is zero, then its corresponding substituent R" is a hydrogen atom; and mixtures thereof.—

- b. Claim 48 is rejoined
- c. In claim 37, line 2, replace “comprising” with —consisting of—
- d. In claim 37, next line to last, delete “at a temperature from about 60 to 70°C”

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable over the closest prior art of record, Benisek et al. (US 4,448,817) and Lewis (US 3,933,421), because the prior art do not teach or fairly suggest methods “consisting of” the instantly claimed steps.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMINA KHAN whose telephone number is (571)272-5573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Amina Khan/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796
March 24, 2010

/Lorna M Douyon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796